

# Clatsop County Deflection Program



# Deflection Team

Sheriff Matt Phillips  
Lt. Kristen Hanthorn  
Deflection Coordinator Christina Schulz

Shyra Merila - CBH  
Rick Martinez - CBH  
Trista Boudon - CBH  
Isaiah O'Neill - CBH

DA - Ron Brown  
Chief Deputy DA Dawn  
Buzzard  
Julie Vredeveld - TCA

Lt. Guy Knight, Seaside PD  
Kris Kaino - Defense Attorney  
Monica Steele - Asst. County Manager  
Kelly Braaten - Juvenile Director/Public Health Director

# What is Deflection?

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Deflection is a powerful collaborative effort, uniting the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office, the Clatsop County District Attorney's Office, Local Law Enforcement Agencies, and Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare (CBH). This program offers individuals struggling with substance addiction, the opportunity to seek treatment without criminal justice interventions.







# How are people referred?

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- Pathway #1 -
- Referred by LE in lieu of criminal arrest for drug charge.

## Pathway #1 (Sept 2024- Jan 2025)

- Single PSC charge. Individual had to be found in possession of controlled substance.
- Exclude anyone who was already on community supervision and/or arrested for other crimes at time of contact.

# Pathway #1

- For the first five months of our program, this was the only pathway and it created barriers to who could access Deflection.
- As of February 2025 - we removed barriers to admission by allowing individuals who are already on community supervision or who are being charged with other minor crimes.





## Pathway #2

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Offered to individuals  
suffering from drug  
addiction.

## Pathway #2

- Anyone experiencing Substance Use Disorder and wanting help can be referred to Deflection.



# Who Is Eligible



## Pathway #1

- **A resident of Clatsop County, including those experiencing homelessness**
- **Found in possession of illegal drugs**
- *Currently on probation, post-prison supervision, or parole in Clatsop County*
- *Facing non-violent, lower-level charges with no identified victims*
- *Have active arrest warrants or failure to appear*

## Pathway #2

- *A resident of Clatsop County, including those experiencing homelessness*
- *Experiencing substance addiction and wants help*

# Law Enforcement Officers are responsible for the majority of referrals

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The majority of referrals come from law enforcement officers who engage with individuals either thru calls for service or self-initiated contact.

Since September 2024, we have provided training over 60 local law enforcement officers on our program. We continue to conduct outreach to local LE by attending shift briefing and a sending out a monthly newsletter.

# Referrals also come from the District Attorney's Office and by reviewing daily arrest reports

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- Our Deflection Coordinator reviews the daily jail booking reports to identify possible deflection candidates.
- We also review cases referred to the DA's Office for opportunities to offer deflection.

# Referral Pathways

## **"On the Scene" Warm Hand-Offs w/LEO & CBH**

- \*Available to Astoria, Gearhart, Seaside, Warrenton/Hammond seven days a week from 8am - 11pm
- \*Deflection CRM &/or Deflection CAD/C requested to respond


## **Rapid Access Clinic Drop-Off from LEO**

- \*M- F 9am - 3pm Astoria and Seaside locations
- \*Internal clinic process for intake & scheduling services and connection with a CRM


## **72 Hour "Report to Clinic" Citation Directive**

- \*Same internal clinic process as above, except w/o LEO transport; client self reports to the clinic





# Deflection Citation



## CLATSOP COUNTY DEFLECTION PROGRAM REFERRAL

DEFLECTION REQUIREMENTS						
County Resident / Unhoused Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not on Supervision Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Single Charge Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES AND SAYS THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSON:</b>						
ID Type:	ID No:	State: County:				
Name: Last	First	MI				
Current Address:	Tel No:					
City:	State:	Zip Code:				
Sex:	Race:	DOB:	Height:	Weight:	Hair:	Eyes:
Email:						
Emergency Contact/ Next Of Kin:	Last	First	Tel No:			
<b>AT THE FOLLOWING TIME AND PLACE IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED STATE AND COUNTY:</b>						
Offense Date On Or About:	Month	Day	Year	Time	<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	
At Or Near Location:						
<b>DID THEN AND THERE COMMIT THE FOLLOWING OFFENSE(S):</b>						
1. Violated (ORS / ORD / Rule):	Describe:					
2. Violated (ORS / ORD / Rule):	Describe:					
3. Violated (ORS / ORD / Rule):	Describe:					
<b>ADDITIONAL INFO</b>						
Agency case #:	CBH Responded To Scene Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		CBH Notified Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Other Info:						
Officer Signature: Print Name: DPSST: Date:						
<b>CLIENT DEFLECTION PROGRAM AGREEMENT</b>						
I agree to have this matter referred to the Deflection Program. I understand that I may be arrested and prosecuted for the above alleged crimes if: *I fail to contact CBH for intake within seventy two (72) hours *I fail to engage in the Deflection Program *I do not make treatment progress						
Client Signature: Print Name: Date:						

White - CCSO Deflection • Yellow - Police Records • Pink - Treatment Center • Gold - Client



**Deflection Goal:** To get people connected to treatment and supports, not solely focused on abstinence from all substances (Holistic)

“Quality of Life” improvement

- *Unhoused to housed, harm reduction, employment, etc.*

Progress toward individualized treatment goals

- *Personalized to the client, includes SUD and personal goals*

90 days of Engagement and Progress

- *The minimum needed to get the charge dropped*

What is a  
Successful  
Deflection  
Outcome & Why?



- If the client fails to engage, or remain engaged in treatment, CBH will notify the Deflection Program Coordinator
- The Deflection Program Coordinator notifies the DA and LE Agency of the program failure and request they send criminal case to DA for consideration
- DA may offer Conditional Discharge at arraignment

What if a Client  
Fails?  
Next Steps?



Most frequent needed services  
are

\*Substance Use Disorder  
Treatment

\*Mental Health Treatment

\*Housing services





# Clatsop County 2024 Deflection Summary

## Referring Agencies

Astoria PD

Cannon Beach PD

Clatsop County SO

Gearhart PD

Seaside PD

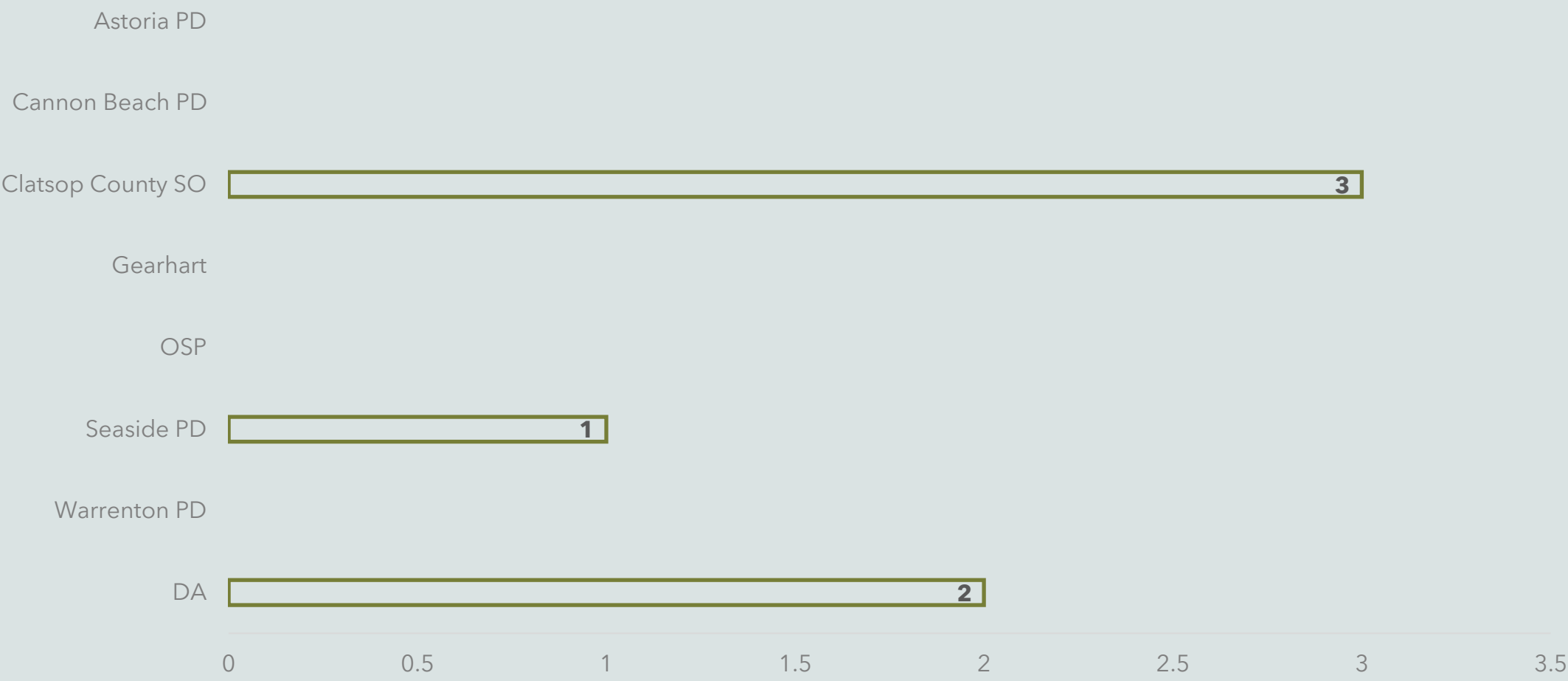
Warrenton PD

DA's Office

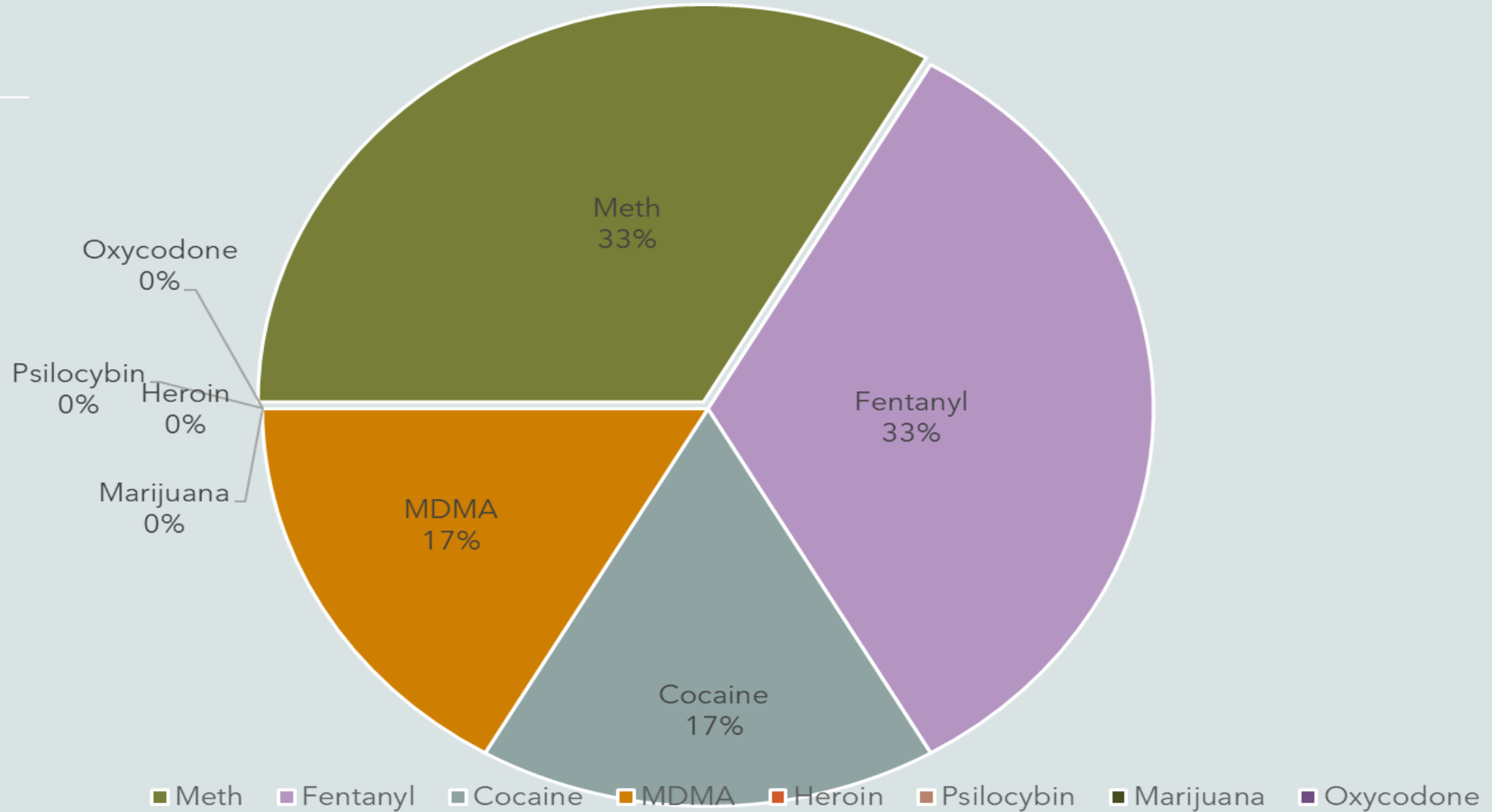
OSP



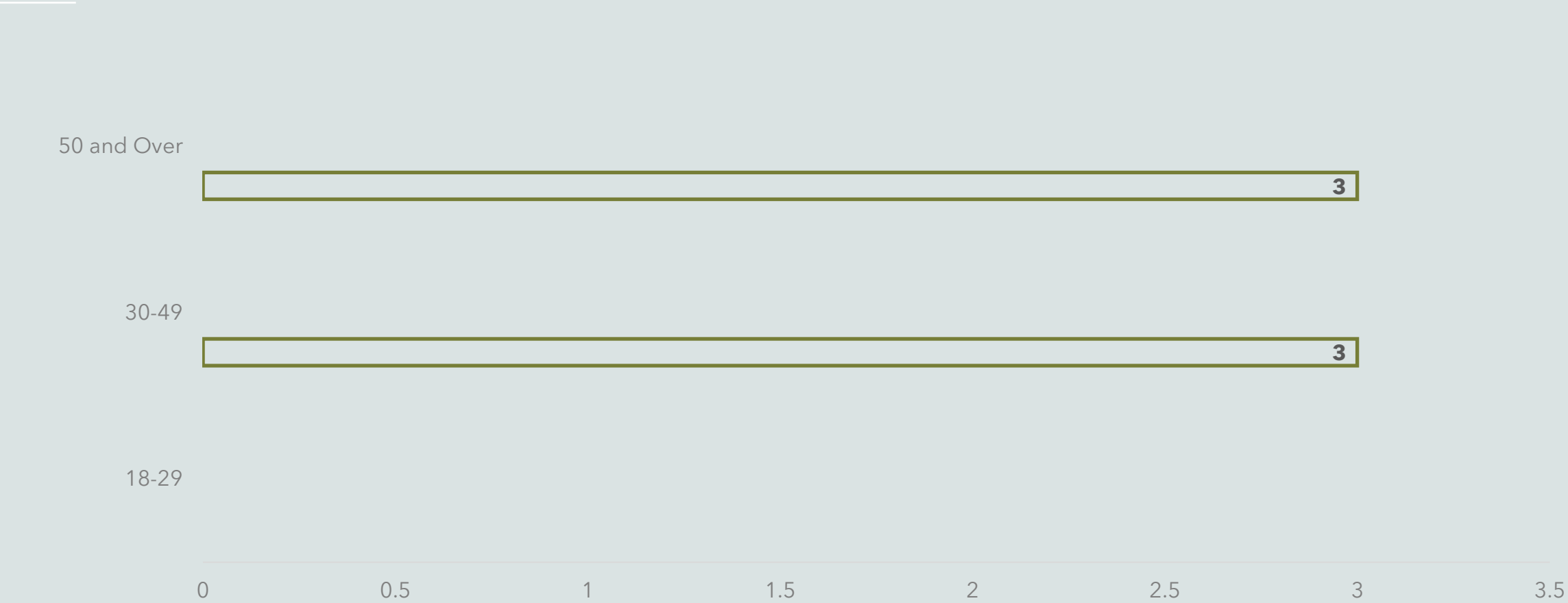
# Referral By Agency & Client Entered Program



## Drug Types



# Age Demographics of Clients in Program

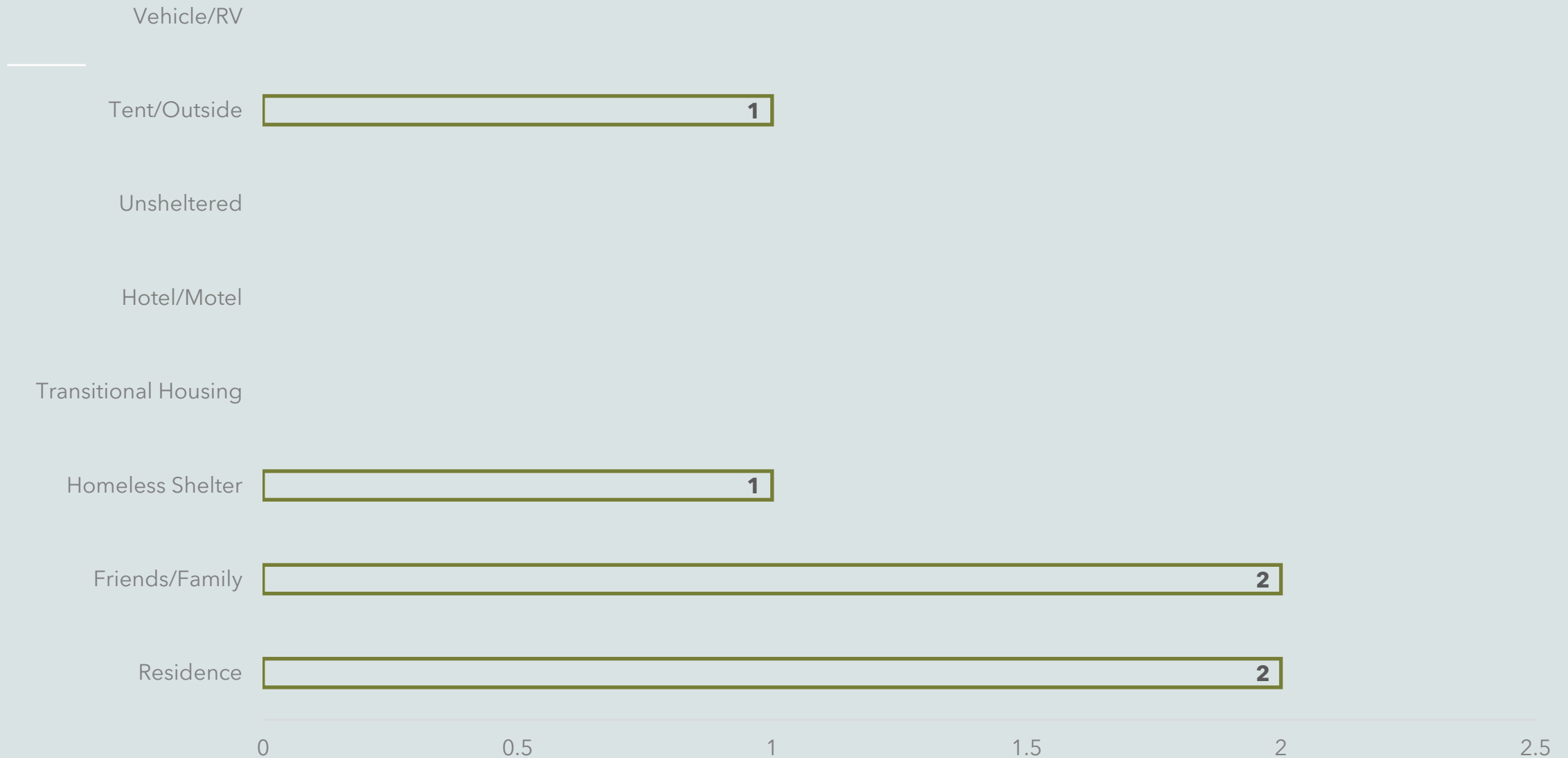




# Age of Demographics of Clients that Declined the Program



# Residence at Time of Contact



# Deflection Stats



## Lessons learned so far -

- **Expanded Eligibility Increases Access** – By broadening our criteria to include lower-level offenses and individuals on probation, we've been able to reach more people in need of support.
- **Substance Use & Mental Health Are Primary Needs** – The majority of our referred clients require Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Mental Health Treatment, highlighting the need for strong partnerships with service providers.
- **Law Enforcement's Role is Crucial** – Officers play a key role in identifying and referring eligible individuals, making it essential to provide ongoing training and support to ensure successful referrals.



## Lessons learned continued -

- **Warm Handoffs Improve Engagement** – Direct, immediate connections between law enforcement and CBH for assessments increase the likelihood of clients following through with services.
- **Program Monitoring & Adjustments Are Necessary** – Regular evaluations help us identify gaps and make improvements, such as refining eligibility criteria and enhancing service coordination.
- **Successful Completion Leads to Positive Outcomes** – Clients who complete 90 days in the program not only benefit from treatment but also have the opportunity to seal their original charges, reducing barriers to future success.

# What challenges are you still working out?

- We are working on engagement with individual law enforcement agencies. Deflection program staff attend LE staff meetings/briefing trainings to educate and explain our program to local law enforcement officers.

As of today -

- Seven individuals are currently active in Deflection program.
- Two individuals have successfully completed with one more due to complete next Monday.
- Three individuals were referred within the first week of the implementing the updated eligibility requirements.



Thank you for your  
support -

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Questions?